

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 EB-08
COME-00 TRSE-00 OIC-02 L-03 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-11
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INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, WFC

SUBJECT: HOSTSHIP 1979 WORLD FOOD COUNCIL

REF: STATE 40676

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1. AT 3RD MINISTERIAL JUNE 1977 IN MANILA, NIGERIA
OFFERED TO HOST FUTURE SESSION OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL.
SINCE MEXICO HAD EARLIER BID TO HOST A MEETING AND
ARGENTINA AND SUDAN HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN A HOSTSHIP,
A DECISION ON BOTH THE 1978 AND 1979 SITES WAS DEFERRED
SUBSEQUENTLY THE WFC BUREAU DECIDED TO HOLD 1978 MEETING
(PREPARATORY AND MINISTERIAL) IN MEXICO CITY (JUNE 5-14).

WE ARE NOT AWARE OF CURRENT NIGERIAN INTEREST IN PURSUING INVITATION AND WOULD BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THINKING IN LAGOS. REQUEST EMBASSY CONSULT WHATEVER LEVEL APPROPRIATE TO GET AUTHORITATIVE NIGERIAN RESPONSE. WE NEED A RE-SPONSE ASAP AND NO LATER THAN MAY 26 IN ORDER TO PREPARE U.S. DELEGATION TO WFC.

2. IN APPROACHING GOVERNMENT, YOU SHOULD INDICATE:

-- U.S. ACTIVELY CONSIDERING INVITING COUNCIL TO MEET IN 1979 REPEAT 1979 IN WASHINGTON.

-- WE WOULD USE THIS OCCASION TO REAFFIRM OUR CONTINUED STRONG SUPPORT FOR AN ACTIVE COUNCIL WHICH WILL REVIEW SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SECTOR AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH CAN MORE EFFECTIVELY GALVANIZE ACTION BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

-- FROM OUR STANDPOINT 1979 IS BEST YEAR TO OFFER U.S. HOSTSHIP.

-- BEFORE PROCEEDING, WE WISH TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER NIGERIA WILL BE PURSUING ITS INFORMAL INVITATION OF LAST YEAR. IF SO, WE WOULD DEFER TO NIGERIA AND ABANDON ALL THOUGHTS CONCERNING 1979 HOSTSHIP.

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-- WE HAVE AS YET NOT DISCUSSED THIS QUESTION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS, NOR WITH THE WFC SECRETARIAT. VANCE

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